

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 AGRE-00 ICAE-00 AID-05 EB-08 EUR-12
COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SSO-00
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P 231730Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3786

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FODAG

FROM HARDEN

PASS WHITE HOUSE, PA FOR CARTER; PASS ICA, EUR, AFP, AF/W

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, LILLIAN), OTRA, XT, XY, IT, SOPN

1. DURING DISCUSSION AT FAO OF PLANS FOR MISS LILLIAN'S VISIT TO ROME IT BECAME CLEAR THAT NEWS OF JULY 21 TIMING OF PRESENTATION OF CERES MEDAL TO HER BY FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAOUMA WILL SOON EMERGE AS PLANS BEGIN TO BE LAID FOR TV COVERAGE, ETC. THEREFORE, IT WOULD SEEM APPROPRIATE TO PROCEED FAIRLY QUICKLY TO COORDINATED ISSUANCE OF WHITE HOUSE AND FAO ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PRESENTATION.

2. SINCE FAO DG SAOUMA HAS NOTED ABSENCE OF ANY REFERENCE TO FAO IN RECENT REMARKS BY PRESIDENT TO GROUP OF ELDERLY BY PRESIDENT ON MISS LILLIAN'S TRIP TO ROME, BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO RESPECT FAO SENSITIVITIES ON ANNOUNCEMENTS.

3. RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT WHITE HOUSE PRESS RELEASE BE DISCUSSED AND COORDINATED WITH FAO THROUGH FAO REP KIMMEL
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IN WASHINGTON GIVING FAO OPPORTUNITY TO ISSUE ITS RELEASE FIRST, IF IT WISHES WITH WHITE HOUSE RELEASE COMING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER IT.

4. SUGGESTED TEXT FOR SUCH A RELEASE FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT
THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO) DR. EDOUARD SAOUMA, HAS CONFERRED THE FAO'S SPECIAL AWARD

FOR DISTINGUISHED WOMEN - THE CERES MEDAL - ON MY MOTHER, MISS LILLIAN, AND HAS INVITED HER TO RECEIVE THIS MEAL IN A CEREMONY AT FAO HEADQUARTERS ON JULY 21, 1978. I HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT MY MOTHER ACCEPT THIS INVITATION AND THIS AWARD IN LIGHT OF OUR SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE PROBLEMS OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION WHICH THE FAO IS ADDRESSING AND THE IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT ROLE WHICH WOMEN MUST PLAY IF EFFORTS TO ALLEVIATE THIS PROBLEM ARE TO BE SUCCESSFUL.

THE SIGNAL HONOR BEING RENDERED TO MISS LILLIAN BY THIS MAJOR SPECIALIZED AGENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IS A TRIBUTE TO HER PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT AS A NURSE (SEE JUDY HARRISON IN RICHARD HARDEN'S OFFICE FOR DETAILS) IN A SMALL VILLAGE IN INDIA. WHAT THE AWARD MEANS IS THAT A COMMITMENT TO THIS VERY DIFFICULT BUT ALSO VERY REWARDING TYPE OF WORK BY PEOPLE WITH PERSONAL DEDICATION AND RELEVANT SKILLS IS VITALLY NEEDED AND DEEPLY APPRECIATED IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD IF THE HUMAN NEEDS OF THE HUNGRY AND POOR ARE TO BE MET.

THE FAO IS PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE ORGANIZATION OF TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON A WIDE RANGE OF FOOD PRODUCTION PROBLEMS IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IT IS ALSO FACILITATING AND SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP) IN ROME WHICH IS ANNUALLY CHANNELING \$350 MILLION WORTH OF FOOD TO HUNGRY PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. NOW IT IS INCREASING ITS ACTIVITY TO HELP THE NEW \$1 BILLION INTER-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD) AS WELL AS THE WORLD BANK AND THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS IN IDENTIFYING AND DESIGNING PROJECTS WHICH WILL INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE COUNTRIES WHERE THE NEEDS ARE GREATEST.

MISS LILLIAN'S TRIP TO ROME TO RECEIVE THIS AWARD WILL GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE OUR INTEREST IN AND SUPPORT OF THIS IMPORTANT WORK. END OF TEXT

5. PLEASE SEND FINAL TEXT AS RELEASED BY WHITE HOUSE TO SEVEN COUNTRIES ON ITINERARY VIA WIRELESS FILE OR CABLE. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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